

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
COLUMBIA CITY PARKING WORKGROUP
DECEMBER 3, 2002
COLUMBIA CITY LIBRARY
7:00 – 9:00 PM

ATTENDEES

Frank Buchanan, frank@makensay.com
Todd Kluger, tkluger@yahoo.com
Karen Kinney,
 karen@seattlefarmersmarkets.org
Justine Kim, Seattle Public Library,
 justine.kim@spl.org

Meghan Shepard (City SDOT),
 meghan.shepard@seattle.gov
Randy Wiger (City SDOT),
 randy.wiger@seattle.gov
Notes taken by Randy Wiger.

ACTION ITEMS

- Meghan will finalize survey questions and distribute to parking workgroup members and to the community per the distribution recommendations.
- At the next meeting, staff will provide a decision-tree showing different parking management options and solutions with their likely pros and cons.
- City staff will provide examples of small business parking tools at the next meeting.
- Schedule of next meetings:
Late January 2003 meeting – present and discuss results of survey.
February 2003 meeting – identify, evaluate and choose solutions.

MEETING SUMMARY

After introductions, Meghan summarized the *Making the Parking System Work: Columbia City* program efforts to date. Discussion followed about the connection between immediate parking problems and long-term parking issues that may arise when light rail eventually comes to Columbia City.

Traffic-flow, management, and opportunities to increase the amount of parking supply

Ideas that were discussed included allowing parking along Rainier Ave. S, and installing cut-outs north of Angeline, down to Edmunds, or along 37th between Edmunds and Ferdinand. Frank Buchanan added that he collected signatures to install angled parking several years ago, but never submitted the completed petitions. He was less than impressed with the total net gain of parking spaces that were going to be created by the angled parking. The issue was raised of turning some streets into one-way to increase the on-street parking supply. The discussion was inconclusive on the pros and cons of this strategy, and it will be addressed again at a later meeting. Because of concern over the lack of parking for library patrons, the usability of the funeral home parking lot was discussed. Justine Kim responded that the Library investigated that option some time ago, but due to the unpredictable nature of funerals and the need for funeral home to use the parking lot on short notice, no feasible arrangement could be developed.

Regarding traffic flow, attendees commented that, in the past, the City synchronized the traffic signals along Rainier Ave S. at Edmunds on Farmer's Market Wednesdays to improve traffic flow to the Market. Interest was expressed on returning to this system.

Columbia City Neighborhood Parking Survey

Workgroup members recommended the following outreach opportunities:

- Distribute to businesses, Schools/PTSA's, Church services, at events like Beatwalk, Farmer's Market, Holiday Bazaar.
- Go door-to-door, publish in newspapers like South District Journal, South Seattle Star.
- Post on e-mail listserves and postal mailing lists such as Beatwalk, Farmer's Market, and a community listserv.

City of Seattle 2003 Meter Installation Project

Todd Kluger questioned the status of the city's meter installation, especially regarding Columbia City. City staff responded that specific locations have not yet been identified. The current petition process for meters is similar to that for installing angled parking (60% of property owners must agree), but it is possible the City Council could change or adjust the process. More information will be provided to the workgroup as it becomes available.

Opportunities through the Making the Parking System Work Program

City staff explained that an as-yet-to-be-determined amount of grant funding is available through the Making the Parking System Work program to implement the recommendations of the Columbia City Parking Workgroup. Karen Kinney stated the importance of locating funding sources for small business solutions – many of the Columbia City businesses are fragile, and they can't afford much if anything to subsidize employee options (such as bus passes at a discount or other incentives to reduce single-occupant vehicle (SOV) usage. More information about the amount and usage of the grant will be available at the January Parking Workgroup meeting.

Meeting Adjourned